



WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

6820 MARKET STREET

RUSSELL PA 16345-3406

AMY J. STEWART
SUPERINTENDENT

Board of School Directors

VIA EMAIL

April 13, 2021

Donna L. Zariczny
President
Region II

Allegheny National Forest
comments-eastern-allegheny-marienville@usda.gov

Paul J. Mangione
Vice President
Region I

RE: Comments Concerning Pleasant Project

Arthur J. Stewart
Region I

A. Elizabeth Huffman
Region I

Joseph P. Colosimo
Region II

Jeffrey M. Labesky
Region II

Marcy A. Morgan
Region III

Mary Passinger
Region III

Kevin M. Lindvay
Region III

We, Warren County School District Board of School Directors, are in support of the Pleasant Project. The project attempts to address the issue of balancing age class distribution across the Allegheny National Forest. The current early structural percentage of 3.1% is less than identified in the current Forest Plan. The issue of increasing early structural forests has been a documented goal in the past two forest plans. The establishment of early structural forests needs to be aggressively pursued as the Allegheny National Forest continues to mature and early forest structure is more challenging to develop. The techniques proposed in the Pleasant Project plan are essential to be successful in the project goals and outcomes. The recent conclusions of the Allegheny Forest Collaborative also suggests the focus of increasing the early forest structure and the techniques proposed. In addition, the elimination of the old growth in the project area is supported as research has shown the species composition of the old growth stands are not only less diverse, the species present are susceptible to invasive/non-native insect and disease.

In short our organization strongly supports not only the Pleasant Project, but any project across the Allegheny National Forest landscape that increases early structural conditions toward the goal set in the past and present forest plan.

Sincerely,

Donna L. Zariczny
President

ATTEST:

Board Secretary

The Warren County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment practices and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Gary Weber, Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator at 6820 Market Street, Russell, PA 16345 or (814) 723-6900.